

He has held numerous other positions during his military career including service as a War Planner and Assistant Secretary to the General Staff for the U.S. Army Europe, and an Assistant Professor of Chemistry at the U.S. Military Academy.

As Garrison Commander, Colonel Needham has been a tireless advocate for soldiers, their families, and the communities surrounding Fort Knox. Taking command shortly after BRAC changes were announced, he has overseen the transformation of Fort Knox into its new mission as a vital multi-functional home to operational Army forces and various administrative commands.

Colonel Needham has demonstrated an exceptional determination to ease transition-related concerns by communicating with incoming personnel, citizens, and community leaders at every opportunity. As part of this effort, he developed "BRAC Roadshows," informational seminars conducted at locations with units that are scheduled to move to Fort Knox. He has also worked to transform the Garrison Staff, finalizing the organizational structure to ensure that soldiers, their families, and the community all receive the support that they need.

Colonel Needham's awards and decorations include three Defense Meritorious Service Medals, five Meritorious Service Medals, two Army Commendation Medals, an Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, and a NATO Medal.

It is my great privilege to recognize Colonel Mark Needham today, before the entire U.S. House of Representatives, for his lifelong example of leadership and service. I would like to thank him personally for his exemplary stewardship at Fort Knox during a time of war and administrative transition. His unique achievements and dedication to the men and women of the U.S. Army make him an outstanding American worthy of our collective honor and respect.

OP-EDS SHOW SUPPORT FOR OBAMA IN THE CARIBBEAN COM- MUNITY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce three Opinion Editorials from the New York CaribNews that reflect the unprecedented special excitement that the nomination of BARACK OBAMA for President has caused in our Caribbean community in New York. CaribNews is a New York based publication that serves as the voice of the Caribbean community.

The editorials, all published in the June 17, 2008 publication, are entitled: "Propelled by the Wind of Change Democrats Choose Obama: What an Excellent Choice to Lead the Party Into Race for the White House," "Obama and the Deepening of American Democracy," and "Caribbean Hearts are Swelling with Pride as Obama's Victory Sinks In."

The editorials all reflect a great exhilaration for Obama's candidacy within the New York Caribbean community. Each piece points out how extraordinary the results are of this historical primary and the reactions of Caribbean

Americans. One of the pieces quotes a Caribbean-American who said, "[Obama] comes across as a people person with whom we can relate." Another Jamaican-American woman said, "What a pity the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. isn't around to see this."

One editorial summarizes the consensus among the Caribbean community the best; "BARACK OBAMA has beckoned a new generation to the noble task of remaking America and remaking the world. He has brought millions of new voters into the electoral process." But, the Caribbean community has not forgotten about HILLARY CLINTON and the socio-political significance of her campaign. There is a general belief that she is an important part of the new era of the Democratic Party and also represents the new direction this country is taking on race and gender equality.

TRIBUTE TO E. JAMES BARRETT, CCE PRESIDENT & CEO MICHIGAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. TIMOTHY WALBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 2008

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor E. James (Jim) Barrett who is retiring after 32 years as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Michigan Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Barrett holds the distinction of being the longest-serving President and CEO of any state chamber nationwide. It is with great admiration and pride that I congratulate Mr. Barrett on behalf of all of those who have benefited from his proven ability to cultivate economic growth in the state of Michigan.

In 1971, a young Jim Barrett joined the Michigan Chamber of Commerce staff after receiving a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Financial Administration from Michigan State University. Five short years later, at age 32, he was selected to be President and CEO of the Michigan Chamber, making him one of the youngest individuals ever to head a state chamber. Under Jim Barrett's leadership, membership in the Michigan Chamber of Commerce increased from 3,900 member firms to over 7,100 statewide.

The Michigan Chamber of Commerce, established in 1959, is comprised of over 7,000 business employers, local chambers of commerce, and trade and professional associations. The chamber advocates for pro-business policies to secure economic growth and promote job creation in Michigan. As head of Michigan's Chamber, Mr. Barrett has worked tirelessly to lower the cost of doing business and make Michigan a more attractive place for commerce. Through highly effective communication, Mr. Barrett has been able to mobilize businesses from each of the state's 83 counties, creating a force to promote pro-growth policies statewide.

Jim Barrett, a valued community leader, has received many appointments and has served on countless boards of directors. As Treasurer of Taxpayers United for Tax Limitation, he implemented successful petition drives in 1976 and 1978 to place a constitutional amendment to limit taxes on a statewide ballot, which passed in 1978. The Governor appointed Mr. Barrett to serve on the Civil Service Task Force in 1979 and the Michigan Economic De-

velopment Authority from 1984 to 1985. Among many others, he currently serves as Chairman of the Ingham Regional Medical Center Board of Trustees, Treasurer of the Michigan Chamber Political Action Committee, and is a member of the Steering Committee for the Michigan Prayer Breakfast.

Jim Barrett, known as a man of integrity, candor and goodwill, has been the deserving recipient of many awards throughout his long, respected career. He was inducted into the Michigan Society of Association Executives Hall of Fame in 2002. A year later, the Michigan Political History Society selected Mr. Barrett as the top Association Leader in Michigan over the last 50 years. Under his solid leadership, the Michigan Chamber was rated the number one lobbyist organization in Michigan.

Madam Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing E. James Barrett for his esteemed service to the State of Michigan as long-time President and CEO of the Michigan Chamber of Commerce. May others know of my high regard for his outstanding leadership and career of excellence, as well as my best wishes for Mr. Barrett in the future.

IN TRIBUTE TO LEE STEVENS- GLOVER

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 2008

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ms. Lee Stevens-Glover, who is retiring on June 18, 2008 after 36 years of service in music education in the city of Fremont, California. Ms. Stevens-Glover has inspired young voices at Irvington High School from 1972 through 2004 and at Mission San Jose High School from 1982 through 2008.

Ms. Stevens-Glover's exemplary career as a vocal specialist started in 1968 as a graduating senior from Mission San Jose High School, when she was presented with the Bank of America Achievement Award Plaque for Fine Arts. Her excellence in education has earned her many awards and honors. The recognition she has received includes the Distinguished Teacher in Presidential Scholars Program from former President Bill Clinton, the Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award from the Fremont School Management Association, the Outstanding Alumni Teacher of the Year Award from California State University in Hayward, the Excellence in Education Award from the Fremont Education Foundation, and the Don Gerich Award for Outstanding Service to Mission San Jose High School.

On June 15, 2008, a concert and reception will be held to honor Ms. Stevens-Glover's distinguished career in music education. She has provided a wealth of music education to students through the years, which has enriched their lives immeasurably. I join the community in thanking Ms. Stevens-Glover for her dedicated efforts, her inspiration and commitment to all those who were fortunate to be the beneficiary of her extraordinary teaching skills.